

**What is Claim d is:**

1. A closed loop postage metering system comprising:  
a meter provider infrastructure including a meter database;  
a postal infrastructure in operative communication with the meter provider  
infrastructure, the postal infrastructure including equipment and  
processes for submission, processing, transporting and delivery of a  
mail piece;  
a mailer system in operative communication with the meter provider  
infrastructure and the postal infrastructure, the mailer system including a  
postage meter, the postage meter accounting for and printing postage  
value for the mail piece and printing on the mail piece information  
identifying services requested for the mail piece;  
wherein the postal infrastructure determines an adjusted postage value for the  
mail piece based on the occurrence of events related to the requested  
services during the processing the mail piece; and  
wherein the postal infrastructure sends the adjusted postage value to the meter  
for the meter to account for the adjusted postage value.
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the meter provider infrastructure includes an  
events database and the postal infrastructure includes a planned events  
database and a transaction database used during the processing of the mail  
items.
3. The system of claim 1 wherein the requested services are conditioned on the  
occurrence of at least one certain event.
4. A method for processing mail items, the method comprising the steps of:  
creating a mail piece;  
creating a list of planned events associated with the mail piece;

- creating parameters and decision functions associated with the planned events;
- printing on the mail piece by a postage meter mail piece information including a unique identification of the mail piece, evidence of postage payment identification of the postage meter and services requested for the mailpiece;
- inducting the mail piece into a postal infrastructure;
- scanning the mail piece to determine if one of the planned events has occurred;
- if a planned event has occurred obtaining the mail piece information with sensors in the postal infrastructure, the mail piece information including identification of the postage meter; and
- sending a message to the meter relating to the occurrence of the planned event, the message including the mail piece information.
5. The method of claim 3 comprising the further step of:  
accounting by the meter for the occurrence of the planned event.
6. The method of claim 3 comprising the further steps of:  
if a planned event has not occurred obtaining the mail piece information with sensors in the postal infrastructure, the mail piece information including identification of the postage meter;  
sending a message to the meter relating to the non-occurrence of the planned event; and  
accounting by the meter for the non-occurrence of the planned event.
7. A method for managing postal workshare discounts, the method comprising the steps of:  
prepare a batch of mail in a manner intended for the batch of mail to qualify for certain postal workshare discounts;  
applying at least one of a unique mail piece identification or unique batch identification on each mail piece in the batch of mail;

inducting the batch of mail for postal processing;  
accounting in a meter for payment for the batch of mail based on an estimated  
workshare discount and submitting the payment;  
determining during the postal processing the actual workshare discount that  
the batch of mail is entitled to; and  
sending a correction discount amount to the meter to update the accounting in  
the meter.